

State K-3 Policies

What is the state's kindergarten entrance date cutoff?

September 2020

At least 47 states plus the District of Columbia articulated a specific entrance age in statutes or regulations. At least two states left the entrance age determination to specific district resolution, and one state did not identify any guidance on kindergarten entrance age.

The following information was gathered from state statutes and regulations only.

To view other data points, click [here](#).

STATE ▲	WHAT IS THE STATE'S KINDERGARTEN ENTRANCE DATE CUT OFF?	CITATION
Alabama	Age 5 on or before September 1	Ala. Code § 16-28-4
Alaska	Age 5 on or before September 1	Alaska Stat. Ann. § 14.03.080
Arizona	Age 5 before September 1	Ariz. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 15-821
Arkansas	Age 5 on or before August 1	Ark. Code Ann. § 6-18-207
California	Age 5 on or before September 1	Cal. Educ. Code § 48000

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Colorado	Age 5 on or before October 1	1 Colo. Code Regs. § 301-39:2254-R-5.00
Connecticut	Age 5 on or before January	Conn. Gen. Stat. Ann. § 10-15c
Delaware	Age 5 on or before August 31	Del. Code Ann. tit. 14, § 2702
District of Columbia	Age 5 on or before September 30	D.C. Code Ann. § 38-202
Florida	Age 5 on or before September 1	Fla. Stat. Ann. § 1003.21
Georgia	Age 5 by September 1	Ga. Code Ann. § 20-2-151
Hawaii	Age 5 on or before July 31	Haw. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 302A-411
Idaho	Age 5 on or before September 1	Idaho Code Ann. §33-201
Illinois	Age 5 on or before September 1	105 Ill. Comp. Stat. Ann. 5/10-20.12
Indiana	Age 5 on August 1	Ind. Code Ann. § 20-33-2-7
Iowa	Age 5 by September 15	Iowa Code Ann. § 282.3
Kansas	Age 5 on or before August 31	Kan. Stat. Ann. § 72-3118
Kentucky	Age 5 before August 1	Ky. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 158.030
Louisiana	Age 5 by September 30	La. Stat. Ann. § 17:151.3 La. Stat. Ann. § 17:222

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Maine	Age 5 on or before October 15	Me. Rev. Stat. tit. 20-A, § 5201
Maryland	Age 5 by September 1	Md. Code Regs. 13A.08.01.02
Massachusetts	Each district may establish its own minimum permissible age for school attendance	603 Mass. Code Regs. 8.02
Michigan	Age 5 by September 1	M.C.L.A. 380.1147
Minnesota	Age 5 on or before September 1	Minn. Stat. Ann. § 120A.20
Mississippi	Age 5 on or before September 1	Miss. Code. Ann. § 37-15-9
Missouri	Age 5 before August 1. Metropolitan districts can establish a policy that a child must be 5 on or before any date between August 1 and October 1.	Mo. Ann. Stat. § 160.051 Mo. Ann. Stat. § 160.054
Montana	Age 5 on or before September 10	Mont. Code Ann. § 20-7-117
Nebraska	Age 5 on or before September 30	Nev. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 392.040
Nevada	Age 5 on or before September 30	Nev. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 392.040
New Hampshire	Not specified in statute or regulation.	
New Jersey	Districts may admit children aged 4 & 5, must admit children aged 5 to 6. The cutoff date must be after October 1.	N.J. Admin. Code § 18A:38-5 N.J. Admin. Code § 18A:38-5.1

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New Mexico	Age 5 on or before September 1	Not specified in statute, rules, or regulations
New York	Districts shared that students must be between the ages of 4 and 6	N.Y. Educ. Law § 2514 N.Y. Educ. Law § 1712
North Carolina	Age 5 on or before August 31	N.C. Gen. Stat. Ann. § 115C-364
North Dakota	Age 5 before August 1	N.D. Cent. Code Ann. § 15.1-06-01
Ohio	Districts may adopt a resolution establishing August 1 as the required date by which students must have attained the specified age specified by that district, instead of September 30 required date.	Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 3321.01
Oklahoma	Age 5 on or before September 1	Okla. Stat. Ann. tit. 70, § 18-108
Oregon	Age 5 on or before September 1	Or. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 336.092
Pennsylvania	District decision: between the age of 4 and 6. Minimum age for kindergarten entrance is 4 years 7 months before the first day of the school year.	24 Pa. Stat. Ann. § 5-503 22 Pa. Code § 53.1
Rhode Island	Age 5 on or before September 1	16 R.I. Gen. Laws Ann. § 16-2-27
South Carolina	Age 5 on or before September 1	S.C. Code Ann. § 59-63-20
South Dakota	Age 5 on or before September 1	S.D. Codified Laws § 13-28-2
Tennessee	Age 5 on or before August 15	Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-6-201

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Texas	Age 5 on or before September 1	Tex. Educ. Code Ann. § 29.151
Utah	Age 5 before September 2	Utah Code Ann. § 53A-3-402
Vermont	Age 5, school district may require students admitted to kindergarten to attain the age of 5 on or before August 31 and January 1	Vt. Stat. Ann. tit. 16, § 1073
Virginia	Age 5 on or before September 30	Va. Code Ann. § 22.1-199
Washington	Age 5 on or before August 31	Wash. Admin. Code 392-335-010
West Virginia	Age 5 prior to September 1. Beginning in the 2018-2019 school year districts must offer Pre-Kindergarten to all children who are age 4 before July 1.	W. Va. Code Ann. § 18-5-18 W. Va. Code Ann. § 18-5-44
Wisconsin	4-year-old Kindergarten: Age 4 on or before September 1. 5-year-old Kindergarten: Age 5 on or before September 1.	Wis. Stat. Ann. § 118.14
Wyoming	Age 5 on or before September 15	Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 21-4-302